



The Pipeline

Former cabinet supervisor indicted for alleged fraud

By Mike Jennings, CFC Communications

A former supervisor for the Cabinet for Families and Children in Whitley County could face up to 10 years in prison if convicted on charges that she fraudulently obtained \$6,000 from a program intended to help low-income families.

Janice Terrell, 40, formerly a field services supervisor for the cabinet's family support office in Williamsburg, was indicted by a Whitley County grand jury earlier this month on four counts of program assistance fraud. In each count, she stands accused of diverting to her own use \$1,500 from the family alternatives diversion (FAD) program.

FAD is a short-term option for families who qualify for cash assistance under the Kentucky Transitional Assistance Program (K-TAP) but who may not need to enroll in K-TAP if a temporary need is met. An eligible family that chooses FAD may get up to \$1,500 over three months to help with short-term needs, such as car repairs, child support or housing expenses.

Terrell was indicted under a state law that sets varying penalties for various forms of program fraud. Anyone "having responsibility for the administration of an assistance program" who is convicted of program fraud qualifies for that law's harshest penalty—a prison term of from five to 10 years.

Cabinet workers detected evidence of fraud in Terrell's handling of FAD funds last summer, shortly after she transferred from the Williamsburg office to a similar position in Kenton County. She resigned from the cabinet Aug. 5 after she was shown the evidence against her and was told she faced dismissal.

Mark Rosen, the cabinet's personnel director, said the cabinet will seek the dismissal of any employee caught committing fraud in a program the agency administers.

"We have a zero-tolerance policy," he said. "Every instance that we have discovered has been met with dismissal or resignation."

The cabinet provided its evidence against Terrell to the Kentucky Attorney General's office, which helped Allen C. Trimble, the Whitley County commonwealth's attorney, obtain the indictment.

All four instances of alleged fraud described in the indictment occurred in June. Rosen said that Terrell might also have illegally diverted money from FAD on 14 other occasions. He said the commonwealth's attorney may file additional criminal charges against her or others who intended to benefit from those fraudulent claims.

Secure email from remote locations

From Mark Bengel, CIO / Executive Director, CFC Office of Technology Services

As a part of the commonwealth's ongoing security efforts, employees are now able to use a new "secured" Internet site for access to state email when away from the office. This new site encrypts communications between our email server and personal computers to prevent unscrupulous users on the Internet from intercepting and reading state email. The site can be reached by connecting to:
<https://webmail.state.ky.us/exchange> from any web browser.

Please discontinue using the old site, <http://mail.state.ky.us/exchange>, for remote access to your email. If you still have questions or need assistance please contact our help desk at 573-5831.

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**** Election day is Tuesday,
Nov. 5**

**Employees who vote on Nov. 5 will
receive four hours voting leave time.**

**You must receive prior approval
from your supervisor to obtain
voting leave.**





A corpse from the office of DDS's Training Unit 95.

KECC Halloween activities scare up donations

By Anya Armes Weber, CFC Communications

The Cabinet's Kentucky Employees Charitable Campaign Committee hosted several Halloween activities and raised money for the KECC charities.

In the CHR building, staff made a \$2 donation to enter in a costume contest. Winners of \$10 each are as follows:

- Most original: **Michael Henson** (OTS) as an outhouse.
- Scariest: **Deborah Skinner** (CHS's Office of Program Support) as Frankenstein and Frankenstein's bride.
- Funniest: **Steve Anderson** (CHS's Office of Program Support) as "Mimi" from "The Drew Carey Show."

DDS also held a costume contest for its staff at the First City Complex. Winners of \$10 each are as follows:

- Most original: **Christy Burton** as a hockey player.
- Scariest: **Dixie Yunt** as a spider.
- Funniest: **Alecia Russell, Eric Steely, Deedi Dunavent, Mitzi Meredith, Dawn Caldwell, Todd Gentry, Wendy Crosby, Jenny Chandler and Kris Eaton** as Old McDonald and his farm animals.

Henson, Yunt and Caldwell were all winners last year, too.

Staff watching both buildings' costume parades helped KECC by shopping for sweets at a bake sale.

To view additional photos of the KECC costume contest winners and contestants, follow this link to our special Halloween 2002 page:

<http://cfcnet.state.ky.us/Halloween2002/halloween.htm>

*Site and photos by Robert Martin
DDS photos by Anya Weber, both of CFC Communications*

QCC open to new members

By Anya Armes Weber, CFC Communications

The invitation is still open for staff to be a part of Quality Central Connections (QCC) – the group working to improve life and communications in Quality Central.

QCC sponsors several activities, including Employee Recognition Week and activities (picnics, T-shirt sales), the QCC Spotlight in the Pipeline and CFC Connections – the quarterly chats with Secretary Viola Miller.

Our group especially seeks members from offices housed outside the CHR building – the Training Division, OTS, Child Support and DDS.

QCC meets at 9:30 a.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month in the CHR cafeteria. Please join us!

Learn more about QCC online at <http://cfcnet.state.ky.us/Connections/QCC%20index.asp>.



Sick leave need

Taressa Woolums, Office of the General Counsel, is in need of sick leave donations. To donate leave time, contact Cheryl Dooley at 564-7900.



Family courts are crucial CFC partner

By Secretary Viola P. Miller, Cabinet for Families and Children

On Nov. 5, Kentuckians will choose whether family courts should remain part of the state justice system.

Voting yes to constitutional amendment 1 will change the state constitution to specifically authorize family courts, in which judges focus only on domestic law.

In 26 counties, the family court pilot project has become an asset to the more than 1 million people it serves. The amendment would ensure that family courts could continue operating and could expand into other parts of the state. A no vote to Amendment 1 is a vote to dissolve even the pilot project.

The courts and this cabinet have always worked together, especially since the inception of Comprehensive Family Services. Family courts share our mission of helping Kentuckians who need a hand become permanently self-sufficient. These courts focus on the best interests of families, and especially children.

Because the state constitution does not recognize family courts, for now they are a temporary help to our families. They will be gone for good without passage of amendment 1.

As our staff and other community service providers know, consistent care and expeditious response can help families in turmoil carry on with their lives more quickly.

Family courts can help ensure efficiency in Kentucky's courts, serve families more comprehensively and build a better foundation for the future of our children.